The John Jay Society

Procedure for Debates of the John Jay Society

I. The debate caucus commences with The Sergeant at Arms announcing The Chairman's arrival. The Chairman calls the caucus to order and hits the gavel twice, The Pledge of Allegiance is said, and "Stand Columbia" is sung.

Stand, Columbia!

Sung Spiritedly

Mother, stay'd on rock eternal,
Crown'd and set upon a height,
Glorified by Light supernal
In thy radiance we see light.
Torch, thy children's lamps to kindle,
Beaconstar to cheer and guide,

Stand, Columbia! Alma Mater
Through the storms of Time abide!

Mighty patriots, warriors, sages,
Thou hast borne, a shining band.
Teach thy sons in future ages
Still to love their native land.
Thron'd upon the hill where heroes
Fought for liberty, and died,

Stand, Columbia! Alma Mater
Through the storms of Time abide!

Honor, love, and veneration
Crown forevermore thy brow!
Many a grateful generation
Hail thee as we hail thee now!
Till the lordly Hudson seaward
Cease to roll his heaving tide,

Stand, Columbia! Alma Mater
Through the storms of Time abide!
Stand, Columbia! Alma Mater
Through the storms of Time abide!

II. The Right Honorable Secretary then recites the minutes from the previous debate, starting with the Latin Preamble, translated as:

The John Jay Society convened in The House on the Potomac, Maryland for debate on May 13th, in the year of our Lord 2023, 267 years after the founding of Columbia College, 274 years after John Jay's birth, 244 years after the liberation of the American people, at 7pm. John Jay is the premier debate society of Columbia College for debating political and moral philosophy, the name of which praises him who, as second governor of New York brought liberty to all the people in the year of our Lord 1799, who, as the great negotiating Founding Father and president of the Continental Congress brought our new country out of that domination of a tyrant, who, as the first Chief Justice of the Supreme Court, and the most remarkable, an Alumnus of Columbia College from the year of our Lord 1764, in order to hand down the most noble thing, brought equal justice under the law - John Jay.

A. Quarrels are then heard with the minutes.

III. After announcements and The Lord Great Chamberlain's presentation of The Drink of the Night, The Right Honorable Secretary is addressed by The Chairman to recite the resolution for the night's debate.

IV. Thereafter, a series of speeches are given, abiding by the following procedure rules:

A. One can only refer to The Chairman in the second person. Everyone else is to be referred to as 'the gentleman', 'the lady', or by a title or a nickname that has been assigned by The Chairman.

B. Whenever speaking, one must stand (except for The Chairman). Remain standing until thanked by The Chairman.

C. **To give a speech,** raise a hand and announce "For a speech." Upon being recognized by the Chairman, stand and speak.

1. To close without questions: "...And with that I yield the floor."; sit down. (This is discouraged.)
2. To close with questions: "...And with that, I yield to questions" and remain standing as questions are asked.

The John Jay Society

D. **To pose a question to a speaker,** raise a hand and say "For a question." Questions are asked after the speaker has yielded to questions. Follow up questions can be recognized by The Chairman. Short speeches are preferable to long questions.
E. **To make a rebuttal,** raise a hand and announce, "For a rebuttal." Thereafter, follow procedure for speeches.
F. **To enter into a duel**, request a duel saying "For a Duel?" Upon being recognized by The Chairman and with the consent of the speaker, the speaker and questioner are free to speak without repeated recognition from the chairman, but they are still addressing The Chairman. It is traditional for them to circle each other.
G. **To add a point of information or a point of order,** raise a hand and announce "For a point of information/order." Start with "Is it not in fact the case....", and remain standing until your point has been answered by The Chairman. These are made to add a needed point of information to a speech in the form of a strengthening fact or challenge, and to correct a deviation from the procedure, respectively.
H. **To call an appropriate motion**, raise your hand and call "For a motion." When recognized, begin with "I move that..."
I. **To pose a dichotomy,** raise a hand and say "For a dichotomy." When recognized by The Chairman, state one option, followed by a slight pause, then the second option. State each option as simply as possible.

V. When the speeches have finished, The Chairman will call on The Sergeant at Arms to clear the lobbies, after which The Lord Great Chamberlain closes The Chambers.
VI. The Chairman then addresses The Right Honorable Secretary to repeat the resolution, followed by a count of votes by a raising of hands in the affirmative or negative of the resolution.
VII. After final announcements, The Chairman adjourns the debate caucus to Tom's Diner as is traditional, and "John Jay Will Rule the Day" is sung.

John Jay Will Rule the Day!

Sung with Great Energy and Excitement

Come, sons of old Columbia, and cheer her sandy team!
Rouse out a thund'ring welcome to the men of steel and steam!
Today will bring a vict'ry and tonight the birds will scream,
John Jay will rule the day!

Glory, glory for Columbia!
Glory, glory for Columbia!
Glory, glory for Columbia!
John Jay will rule the day!

Then whoop the chorus up, my boys; let ev'rybody sing!
Remember Alma Mater, boys, and send it with a swing!
And for the team of Blue and White we'll make the welkin ring.
John Jay will rule the day!

Glory, glory for Columbia!
Glory, glory for Columbia!
Glory, glory for Columbia!
John Jay will rule the day!

Since firm and strongly founded in the years now long gone by,
Columbia's many sons have raised her colors oft on high.
We'll praise the Blue and White today, we'll praise it till we die.
John Jay will rule the day!

Glory, glory for Columbia!
Glory, glory for Columbia!
Glory, glory for Columbia!
John Jay will rule the day